

(iii) *Polar bear observation reports.* The operator must report, within 24 hours, all observations of polar bears during any Industry operation. Information within the observation report will include, but is not limited to:

- (A) Date, time, and location of observation;
- (B) Number of bears: sex and age;
- (C) Observer name and contact information;
- (D) Weather, visibility, and ice conditions at the time of observation;
- (E) Estimated closest point of approach for bears from personnel and facilities;
- (F) Industry activity at time of sighting, possible attractants present;
- (G) Bear behavior;
- (H) Description of the encounter;
- (I) Duration of the encounter; and
- (J) Actions taken.

(iv) *Notification of incident report.* Reports should include all information specified under the species observation report, as well as a full written description of the encounter and actions taken by the operator. The operator must report to the Service within 24 hours:

- (A) Any incidental lethal take or injury of a polar bear or walrus; and
- (B) Observations of walruses or polar bears within prescribed mitigation-monitoring zones.

(2) *After-action monitoring reports.* The results of monitoring efforts identified in the marine mammal monitoring and mitigation plan must be submitted to the Service for review within 90 days of completing the year's activities. Results must include, but are not limited to, the following information:

- (i) A summary of monitoring effort including: total hours, total distances, and distribution through study period;
- (ii) Analysis of factors affecting the visibility and detectability of walruses and polar bears by specified monitoring;
- (iii) Analysis of the distribution, abundance, and behavior of walrus and polar bear sightings in relation to date, location, ice conditions, and operational state; and
- (iv) Estimates of take based on density estimates derived from monitoring and survey efforts.

§ 18.119 What are the information collection requirements?

(a) We may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The Office of Management and Budget has approved the collection of information contained in this subpart and assigned control number 1018-0139. You must respond to this information collection request to obtain a benefit pursuant to section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. We will use the information to:

- (1) Evaluate the application and determine whether or not to issue specific Letters of Authorization and;
- (2) Monitor impacts of activities conducted under the Letters of Authorization.

(b) You should direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this requirement to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Mail Stop 222 ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240.

Subpart J—Nonlethal Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Oil and Gas Exploration, Development, and Production Activities in the Beaufort Sea and Adjacent Northern Coast of Alaska

SOURCE: 76 FR 47049, Aug. 3, 2011, unless otherwise noted.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 76 FR 47079, Aug. 3, 2011, Subpart J was added, effective Aug. 3, 2011 through Aug. 3, 2016.

§ 18.121 What specified activities does this subpart cover?

Regulations in this subpart apply to the nonlethal incidental, but not intentional, take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walruses by you (U.S. citizens as defined in §18.27(c)) while engaged in oil and gas exploration, development, and production activities in the Beaufort Sea and adjacent northern coast of Alaska.